SPRINGER et al. Appl. No. 09/937,714 October 14, 2003

REMARKS

Reconsideration is requested.

Claims 1-47 and 98-99 have been canceled, without prejudice.

Claims 48-97 and 100-102 are pending.

The applicants elect, with traverse, the subject matter of the Examiner's Group II for further prosecution in the above. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are requested as examination of all the pending claims would not be an undue burden on the Examiner.

In any event, the claims have been amended to read on the elected Group, to advance prosecution. Examination of all the pending claims is requested along with an early and favorable Action on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:

Reg. No. 36,663

BJS:plb 1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor Arlington, VA 22201-4714

Telephone: (703) 816-4000

Facsimile: (703) 816-4100